



**AGENDA
DITCH BOARD / JOINT DITCH BOARD
MEETING SCOTT COUNTY, MINNESOTA
OCTOBER 5, 2021
8:00 AM**

8:00 AM

(1) CONVENE

The Board of Commissioners, in and for the county of Scott, Minnesota, met in the County Board Room in the City of Shakopee, Minnesota, and convened at 8:00 am. The following members were present: County Commissioner Weckman Brekke, County Commissioner Wolf, County Commissioner Beard, County Commissioner Beer, and County Commissioner Ulrich presided remotely.

(2) APPROVE MINUTES

July 13, 2021 Scott County Ditch Board Minutes
Commissioner Beard, seconded by Commissioner Beer. The motion carried unanimously on a roll call vote.

(3) CONSENT AGENDA

- 3.1 Approve County Drainage Ditch Expenditures for Scott County Drainage Ditches Nos. 5, 8 and 13
Brekke/Beer

(4) NON-CONSENT

- 4.1 Adopt Resolution No. 2021-193; Authorizing Maintenance Liens on Scott County Drainage Ditches Nos. 5, 8, and 13 for the Purpose of Retaining or Establishing Positive Fund Balances for Maintenance Needs for the Next Three Years

Operations Analyst Kris Lage presented information that reviewed the requested actions for ditch maintenance and explained how the determination of need and the cost estimates for the requested projects were established.

The funds are anticipated to last three years and possibly longer depending on the actual costs of maintenance. Costs are to be allocated back to the benefitted owners.

Ms. Lage reviewed actions the Board has already approved and taken regarding the three ditches. She highlighted the expenditures per ditch, established reasons for costs, and updated the Commissioners on the balance left from previous funding.

Ms. Lage went on to tell the Commissioners that a letter was mailed to each benefitted owner, the contents containing information regarding actions required, highlighting all costs, and an explanation that failure to pay would result in a lien against the property. Every owner was invited to the meeting today as well. However, the Zoom link in the communication was incorrect, no landowners had reached out in concern over the mailed letter and notifications received and, as Ms. Lage explained, this sort of maintenance is routine and not out of the ordinary so there was no extenuating concern. Commissioner Weckman Brekke agreed that she had not heard any concern from her own constituents regarding the ditch maintenance and thought the matter safe to move forward.

County Administrator Lezlie Vermillion asked if this was part of a larger project that was previously discussed at a ditch Board prior to this one in which they were seeking to

secure a plan to have regular ditch maintenance to avoid more costly conditions in the long run allowing the ditches to lapse into disrepair as had occurred in previous years. Community Services Director Cindy Geis addressed the Board and clarified that this was not part of that same conversation but rather another potential opportunity was in the works in the form of a potential new partnership with the Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD). Ms. Geis explained that in researching for ways to increase inspection and through conversation with the County Surveyor Dan Wormer, there was an obvious need to relieve the department due to an increase in work. Ms. Geis then segued and the two felt they could come to a possible agreement where the SWCD could take over the surveying and maintenance of ditches in Scott County, provided their Board was not responsible for the ditches and Ms. Geis provide necessary research and information to make this happen. The partnership could then likely result in regular ditch inspection and maintenance for these ditches as another option. Ms. Geis is tasked with gathering information that Scott County Surveyors are not at this time able to provide due to task load. Commissioner Weckman Brekke thanked Ms. Geis for being open to the partnership and doing the work to see it through as she could see the potential benefit there.

Commissioner Wolf, seconded by Commissioner Beard. The motion carried unanimously on a roll call vote.

(5) ADJOURN

On a motion by Commissioner Wolf, seconded by Commissioner Beard, the meeting adjourned on a roll call vote at 8:18 am.